

HEDGE END, WEST END AND BOTLEY LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

Monday, 7 March 2022

COMMUNITY AND YOUTH GRANTS 2021/2022

Report of the Assistant Local Area Manager on behalf of the Hedge End, West End and Botley Community Grants Panel

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Committee:

- (1) Approves the grants as set out in Appendix 1 and 2 to the report.**

Summary

The Grants Panel recommends that grants be allocated to local organisations operating in the Hedge End, West End and Botley local area for 2021/2022.

Statutory Powers

Section 1 of the Localism Act 2021 i.e. the Local Authority's general power of competence, including power to act for the benefit of it's area or persons resident or present in its area.

Strategic Implications

- The recommendations in this report support the Council's approach to localism by allocating devolved resources to meet local needs. The recommendations align with Corporate Plan objectives of Tackling Deprivation, Enabling Healthier Lifestyles and Wellbeing, Supporting an Excellent Environment, Improving Town and Local Centres, Increasing Provision and Ensuring a More Diverse Mix of Housing and Enabling the Right Skills and Employment mix.

Introduction

- This committee has allocated £13,710 for a community and youth grant budget to fund grants to local groups. A total of 23 grant applications were received with a value of £9395.

3. The Grant Panel consists of Councillors Garton, Gomer, Jurd and Kinloch who represented the 3 local areas of this local area committee and they met to assess the applications on 2nd December 2021.

The Panels decisions

4. The Grants Panel sought to ensure the available funding was spread throughout the three local wards.
5. The Panel also considered the objectives of the groups, the numbers attending, whether they were from the Local Area, the total cost of the project and whether funding was or could be sought from elsewhere. The applications were assessed against the following criteria: Including business plans, details on how the grant application meets Eastleigh Borough Council's priorities (Healthy Communities, Green Borough and Prosperous Place) and confirmation that the applications were not for day to day running costs.
6. It is recommended that grants be approved as contained in Appendix 1 and 2 to this report.

Financial Implications

7. The total grants awarded in this report amounts to £7255 and can be accommodated within the approved budget of £13,710.
8. The remaining funds which were not allocated in this round of grants have been ringfenced. In light of the substantial grant funding remaining, Hedge End Town Council and West End and Botley Parish Councils will be given the opportunity to bid for funds towards youth outreach work in their area. A further report will be presented to this committee to approve this funding.

Risk Assessment

9. The recommendations made by the Grants Panel do not hold significant risks. All grant applications are subject to the completion of a detailed application and supporting documents, including the submission of financial details. A monitoring form will also be sent out to all successful recipients to ensure the funds have been spent in line with the approved grant within 12 months of the award.

Equality and Diversity Implications

10. The report complies with our policy to ensure that the voluntary and community sectors are treated fairly and equitably. The Council has had due regard to the aims of the Equality Act. The recommendations in this report promote equality of opportunity, in particular for children and young people, children and youth people with disabilities and disabled people (including mental health) and older people. As part of the application process, applicants are required to submit an Equal Opportunities statement.

11. **Climate Change and Environmental Implications**

The community grants encourage changes residents' behaviours by supporting projects which incorporate green initiatives. For example, the Botley in Bloom competition encourages all local residents to enter the gardening event which brings the community together, raises awareness of the environment and helps connects people to the benefits of nature and gardening. The d@rt Centre at Wildern School are constructing a well-being garden as a direct request from the pupils which will not only have mental health benefits, but will also be an exciting opportunity for young people to learn about nature and the many benefits of being outdoors.

Conclusion

12. The recommendations made in this report complement the Council's corporate priorities, as well as this Committee's local priorities. Subject to the approval of this Committee, the grants will be awarded at a presentation evening in June 2022 to recognise and celebrate the extent of community work being undertaken in the local area.

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ASSISTANT LOCAL AREA MANAGER

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Appendices Attached: 2

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 - SECTION 100D

The following is a list of documents which disclose facts or matters on which this report or an important part of it is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. This list does not include any published works or documents which would disclose exempt or confidential information.

23 grant applications were received and are held on file for further inspection.